

A RESOURCE FROM  
THE APOSTOLIC CRUSADERS

written by: josh wilson



# ***BIBLE STUDY***

UNDERSTANDING & TEACHING  
APOSTOLIC DOCTRINE

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# How do I even get a Bible study started?

The purpose of this study is to equip every Apostolic Crusader with a tool to share and teach the basics of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This Bible study is broken up into four short sessions. The first session is the Word of God and faith. The second Bible session breaks down the topic of repentance and the need for God in our lives. The third lesson will cover the topic of baptism and why we all need to be baptized. Finally, the fourth lesson will cover Holy Ghost baptism.

Time and time again, lives have been changed using a Bible study to reach and to teach others about Jesus Christ. There are many ways to get a Bible Study with someone. Here are some tips to help you get the opportunity to teach someone a Bible study:

**Anytime a first-time guest comes to your church, you should not miss the opportunity to introduce yourself to him or her and then simply ask, “Would you like to know more about the Bible?”** If the person says yes, then you are good to go. All you have to do is say, All right, that is awesome! I teach a 30 minute Bible study. When would you like to get together so we can get started? Set the time and place right there. If the individual says he or she is not interested in learning more about the Bible, just say, No problem, maybe we can get together sometime and just chill. Many times people are introduced to Jesus through our relationship with them. Just be sensitive to the Lord, and He will help you say and do the right things to bring souls to Him.

**Be sensitive to the Lord and His Spirit.** He may tell you to offer to buy someone some coffee at Starbucks, or the Lord may be leading you to teach a Bible study. You simply walk up to the person and repeat tip one. Ask him, “Would you like to know more about the Bible?” When he says yes, set up a time, a meeting place, and make sure you get his phone number or Facebook page address so you can contact him before the study. Once you have these three pieces of information, call him one hour before the Bible study and say, I will see you at the spot we picked out before. Many times the enemy will try to fight your new Bible study student and send him or her all kinds of distractions. Don't let the enemy win. Just stick with it and then watch the Lord use you to bring someone to Him.

**When you go to teach a Bible study make sure to bring two Bibles that are exactly the same.** This way you can tell the student to turn to a page number along with the book of the Bible and verse number. This will help your Bible study session stay under the 30 minute time and allow your student to feel comfortable while being introduced to the Word of God.

## LESSON 1: p.4

**The Word of God & Faith:** A lesson on understanding the two foundational elements of the Apostolic faith.

## LESSON 2: p.10

**What is Repentance?** What repentance means, and why we should obey Scripture concerning it.

## LESSON 3: p.18

**The Necessity of Baptism:** Why baptism is important, and the Scriptural mandate behind it.

## LESSON 4: p.25

**The Gift of the Holy Ghost:** What it means to be “filled with the Holy Ghost” and how to receive it.

# ***Introduction to the Word of God***

**Erastus Salisbury Field** was an American folk art painter of portraits, landscapes, and history pictures. The following quote is imprinted on his famous painting, “The Historical Monument of the American Republic,” in the bottom right corner:

***“It is a book of lives, a book of travels and a book of voyages. It is the best covenant that was ever made, the best evidence that was ever given; the best deed that was ever signed; the best testament that was ever sealed.”***

*“The Bible is a brief recital of all that is past; and a certain prediction of all that is to come. It settles all matters of debate, resolves all doubts and relieves the mind of its hesitation. It reveals the only living and true God and points the unerring way to Him; it sets aside all other gods and exhibits the vanity and folly of those who trust in them. The Bible is a book of laws, to point out right and wrong; a book of wisdom that condemns all foolishness and vice; and a book of knowledge, which makes even the simple wise. It is a book of truth that detects all lies and confutes all error; and a book of life which leads in a sure way from eternal death. It contains the earliest antiquities, the strangest events, the most wonderful occurrences, heroic deeds, and unparalleled wars; it describes the celestial, terrestrial, and infernal worlds; the origin of angelic host, the human tribes and hellish legions. The Bible can instruct the most accomplished mechanic and the most skillful artist; it can teach the ablest rhetorician and exercise the powers of the most profound mathematician; it can perplex the wisest anatomist and confound the ablest critic. The Bible presents a complete code of laws, a perfect body of divinity and a narrative which has no equal. It is a book of lives, a book of travels and a book of voyages. It is the best covenant that was ever made, the best evidence that was ever given; the best deed that was ever signed; the best testament that was ever sealed. This book is the king’s best copy, the magistrates best rule, the parents best guide, the servants infallible directory, and the young man’s best companion. It is the school boy’s best spelling book and the learned mans master piece. It contains a choice grammar for the novice and deep sayings for the sage. It is the ignorant mans school master and the wise mans dictionary, it furnishes knowledge, witty inventions for the ingenious and dark sayings for the grave; and it is its own interpreter. It encourages the wise, the warrior and him that over shines; and promises an eternal reward to the conqueror. But that which crowns the whole is, its Author is without partiality and without hypocrisy; for in Him there is no variableness not shadow of turning. The Bible suits all orders, ranks and conditions of men. It speaks alike to the rich and the poor, to the honorable and the ignoble. The gifts of such a book is worthy of its Almighty Author; and exemplifies His justice and goodness the understanding of every rational being. Inexcusable is he who does not read, and unwise is he who gains no instruction; for to guilty man it is a savor of life unto life, or of death unto death.”*

# Lesson 1: The Word of God and Faith

The reason we start with the Word of God and faith is because they will act as two foundational principles that we can build upon as we go through the four lessons of this Bible study. We will establish that the Word of God is infallible and that you can put your faith in every word that is written in your Bible. When you put your faith in His Word, God will begin to do some amazing things in your life.

## Bible Background and Facts

- There are 66 books in the Bible
- The Bible is broken into two different sections: the Old Testament, and the New Testament
- The Old Testament is made up of 39 books
- The New Testament is made up of 27 books
- God used over 40 different men to write the Bible
- The first book of the Bible is *Genesis*, and the last is *Revelation*
- In some Bibles there are red letters in the New Testament that represent words spoken by Jesus
- The Bible contains 1,189 chapters, 31,102 verses, and 783,137 words
- The longest verse in the Bible is Esther 8:9
- The shortest verse in the Bible is John 11:35, “Jesus wept.”
- According to the Bible Society in Israel, there are approximately 50 Bibles sold every minute throughout the world

## Quick Tips About Reading the Bible

When a preacher or teacher says, “Please turn in your Bibles to Acts 2:38,” we understand that:

- **Acts** is the name of the book you would turn to
- **“2”** means to look for the second chapter
- **“38”** is the verse that will be read from the second chapter

Let’s take some time to turn in our Bibles to Acts 2:38 and read it.

*“Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.” —Acts 2:38 KJV*

When you first get a Bible, it looks like a huge book that will take forever to read. However, there are one-year Bible reading programs available to help you read through the entire Bible in a year, taking less than 10 minutes each day. Think about it: you could read the entire Bible twice each year with just 20 minutes of reading! In fact, many smartphones and tablets now have Bible reading programs that will send you a daily notification to remind you to read each day. If you do not have time to sit and read, the apps will often times read the Bible to you as you continue throughout your day.



*The Bible holds the Guinness World’s Record for the Best Selling Book of Non-Fiction. Recent estimates state that there are more than 5 billion copies in print in more than 2,123 languages!*

## How scripture references work:

# ACTS 2:38

The book of the Bible where you’ll be reading from.

The chapter of the book (numbering begins again in each new book)

Individual verses in each chapter are numbered. So in this example, you’ll read the 38th verse of the 2nd chapter.

## Old Testament Books of the Bible

**LAW** Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy

**HISTORY** Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 & 2 Samuel, 1 & 2 Kings, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther

**POETRY** Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon

**MAJOR PROPHETS** Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel

**MINOR PROPHETS** Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi

## New Testament Books of the Bible

**GOSPELS** Matthew, Mark, Luke, John

**HISTORY** Acts

**LETTERS: CHURCHES** Romans, 1 & 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 & 2 Thessalonians

**LETTERS: PEOPLE** 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon

**LETTERS: GENERAL** Hebrews, James, 1 & 2 Peter, 1-3 John, Jude

**PROPHECY** Revelation

## What are the Benefits of the Bible?

- You will learn about the Creator of this world
- You will learn how to make it through tough situations that life throws your way
- You will learn about the love that Jesus has for you
- Every question you have can be answered by the Word of God
- Even though the Bible is thousands of years old, it still has the ability to speak to us today

## Who is the Author of the Bible?

*“Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.” —2 Peter 1:20-21*

There is only one Author of the Word of God, and the Author is God Himself. God would move upon men of God with His Spirit, and they would begin to write the words that He spoke to them.

A great example of God speaking to a holy man of God can be found in the Book of Exodus.

*“And the LORD said unto Moses, Hew thee two tables of stone like unto the first: and I will write upon these tables the words that were in the first tables, which thou brakest. And be ready in the morning, and come up in the morning unto mount Sinai, and present thyself there to me in the top of the mount. And no man shall come up with thee, neither let any man be seen throughout all the mount; neither let the flocks nor herds feed before that mount. And he hewed two tables of stone like unto the first; and Moses rose up early in the morning, and went up unto mount Sinai, as the LORD had commanded him, and took in his hand the two tables of stone.” —Exodus 34:1-4*

This instance was with a man whom God chose to write what is now called the 10 Commandments. God spoke to Moses and said that He needed him to bring two stones so He could write upon them. Then Moses could bring the law, or the commandments, back to the people he was leading into the promised land God had given them.

The Lord would speak and then the men of God would write as the Lord spoke to them.

Here's an example: You go into a doctor's office and the doctor takes his phone out, pushes the record button on the phone, and begins to speak. When he gets finished he pushes the stop button, and emails the audio files to his secretary.

The secretary then puts her headphones on and begins to type, word for word, everything the doctor recorded. When she finishes, she quickly edits to check her punctuation, and then, when she is satisfied with the final product, she prints the document.

The question is, who is the author of the publication? The doctor, or the secretary? The answer, of course, is the doctor.

The Bible only has one Author, and that Author is God. This is the same approach God took when He wanted to send His Living Word to all of us today. God spoke, or moved, upon holy men of God. When God spoke, they wrote His word. God is the Author of the Holy Scriptures.

### ***Where is the Proof?***

The proof of the authenticity of the Word of God can be found in its archaeological proofs and in its consistency from Genesis to Revelation.

Many times when archaeologists are going to go on a dig in the Middle East, they will reference the scriptures to find historical factors to determine where they should dig to find historical artifacts.

Faithfacts.org is a wonderful resource to use to find historical proofs of the authenticity of the Holy Scriptures.

One fact taken from this resource is about the walls of Jericho. A man by the name of **John Garstang** discovered in the 1930s that “the walls fell suddenly, and outwardly (unique), so Israelites could clamber over the ruins into the city (Joshua 6:20).”

Another fact that proves the Word is infallible, and God is the Author, is the fact that the Bible was written over 1,600 years by 40 different men who came from different backgrounds. Some were doctors, tax collectors, learned men, and unlearned fisherman. Despite the different backgrounds and levels of education, however, there is a solid continuity and consistency throughout the Scripture. There is continuity and consistency because there is only one Author—God.

### ***The word of God will always be with us.***

*“The grass withereth, the flower fadeth : but the word of our God shall stand for ever.” —Isaiah 40:8*

### ***What does the Bible say about adding to and taking away from it?***

*“For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the*



*The Bible claims the universe had a beginning. Philosophers and scientists rejected that claim for over two thousand years, but now astronomers believe the universe had a beginning, the so-called “big bang.”*



*The Bible claims that God destroyed the earth and the creatures inhabiting it in the worldwide Flood. Nineteenth-century geologists argued that rock layers and the fossils found in them were formed as sediments were deposited slowly, but today geology confirms that many rock layers were deposited catastrophically, burying fossils within only minutes or hours.*



**Faith defined:** *“Complete trust or confidence in someone or something. Also a strong belief in God or in the doctrines of a religion, based on spiritual apprehension rather than proof.”*

**THE ONLY WAY WE GET FAITH  
IS BY HEARING OR READING  
THE WORD OF GOD**

*book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book. He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen. —Revelation 22:18-21*

Now that we have identified some facts about the Bible, and we have established Who the Author of the Bible is, we need to talk briefly about the role faith plays in our lives.

According to dictionary.com, “Faith is complete trust or confidence in someone or something. Also a strong belief in God or in the doctrines of a religion, based on spiritual apprehension rather than proof.”

We must all have faith in God and His Word if we are going to be established Christians. There are times when you just have to have faith and believe that God has everything under control. We must put our faith in God and His word.

There are some people that want proof for everything. There are times when we just have to exercise our faith and believe that God is God, and He will work everything out according to His Word.

### **What does the Bible say Faith is?**

*“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”  
—Hebrews 11:1*

Faith, according to the scripture, is having the substance of something that doesn’t physically exist yet. Then the scripture says faith is the evidence of things not seen! This means that there is already evidence of something that has not yet happened physically. However, if God speaks it or you read it in His Word, you can already act as if what you hope for or need in life is already done. You can have faith and know that if God said it, it will happen.

How can we get this faith? The Bible tells us how in Romans 10:17.

*“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”  
—Romans 10:17*

The only way we get faith is by hearing or reading the Word of God.

There is an entire chapter in the Bible dedicated to men and women who had great faith. You should read about them sometime in Hebrews chapter 11.

As you begin your journey into this Christian faith God has many great things in store for you. You cannot see them yet, but God already does. He already has

a plan and path of greatness for you. All you need to do is obey His Word and walk by faith!

*“For we walk by faith, not by sight.” —2 Corinthians 5:7*

Your journey starts with putting your faith in God’s word. Are you ready to start? Begin your journey to knowing more about the Bible and God by reading His Word, attending an Apostolic church, and living a lifestyle that is pleasing to God.

## ***Application***

- Begin to read the book of Matthew and look out for the red letters that represent the words spoken by Jesus Christ.
- Download a Bible app on your phone or tablet.
- When you start reading your Bible, write down a verse that spoke to you so we can discuss it at our next session.
- What does faith mean to you?
- Has your faith ever been tested?

### ***Notes:***

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## Lesson 2: What is Repentance?

*“If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.” —2 Chronicles 7:14*

### ΜΕΤΑΝΟΕΩ

**Repentance defined:** *The Greek word you see above is the word most often used for “repent” or “repentance” in the original New Testament text. This word means to “change one’s mind.” It represents not just sorrow, but a complete turning away, to embrace another pattern of thought.*

Many times we think of repentance in a negative way. When some people think about repentance, they think about someone judging them. They may think, “Who are *they* to tell me that I need to repent?”

The fact of the matter is that repentance is a wonderful and glorious opportunity for everyone which was given to us by Jesus Himself. Repentance simply means a *turnaround*. We all need a “do-over” or a turnaround in life from time to time.

Have you ever made a mistake, or messed up and wished you could have a do-over, or a second chance? Repentance is that second chance! All of this is possible because Jesus died for us!

Read the following verses:

*“Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:” —1 Corinthians 15:1-4*

These scriptures tell us exactly what the Gospel is.

- Jesus died for us
- Jesus was buried
- Jesus rose again on the third day

This is known as the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The Bible tells us we can *receive* this gospel, we can *stand upon* this gospel, and we are *saved by* this gospel. The only way we can receive, stand, and be saved by the gospel, is by applying it to our lives.

### **How to Die**

The first part of the gospel is simply that Jesus died. So we apply this part of the gospel by dying *with* Jesus.

I know what you are thinking: “How in the world do I die with Jesus?” In order to understand this concept, we have to go all the way back to the beginning of

### **How do we obey the gospel of Jesus Christ in our lives?**

1

*Just as Jesus died, we must die to our sins through repentance.*

2

*Just as Jesus was buried, we must be “buried” through baptism.*

3

*Just as Jesus rose again, we rise in “newness of life” when we receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.*

humanity and look into the lives of the first humans ever to walk on this earth.

*“And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.*

*Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons. And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden. And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.”*  
—Genesis 2:21-3:10

These scriptures tell us about the first sin ever recorded—sometimes called the “original sin.” If you read the highlighted scripture again, you’ll also read the greatest tragedy and consequence of sin. When we mess up and make mistakes in life, there is a separation that takes place between us and God.

You can read about the separation that was caused because of the choice Adam and Eve made in Genesis 3:21-24:

*“Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them. And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree*



**Sin begins:** Before Adam and Eve ever touched the “forbidden fruit,” sin presented itself as a simple question, “Hath God said?” Sin comes the same way today, in the form of questions designed to make us question the validity of the Bible, and the very existence of God.



**“FOR THE WAGES OF  
SIN IS DEATH; BUT  
THE GIFT OF GOD  
IS ETERNAL LIFE  
THROUGH JESUS  
CHRIST OUR LORD.”**

**—ROMANS 6:23**



*Adam & Eve's decision to listen to the serpent wasn't just the introduction of sin into the timeline of humanity, it was also the introduction of **death**.*

*of life, and eat, and live for ever: Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken. So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.” —Genesis 3:21-24*

The Garden of Eden before sin represented a place of total presence and purity of God. The Garden was a place where Adam and Eve had dominion over everything and had a beautiful communion with God. Then, because of the sin of Adam and Eve, sin entered into the equation and caused a separation or a wedge between humanity and God.

Romans tells us about the debt that is required to remove sin from our lives:

*“For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” —Romans 6:23*

The only way to get rid of or to pay the debt of sin is death. We must all realize that we are all sinners. The Bible explains this to us.

*“Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.” —Psalms 51:5*

*“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;” —Romans 3:23*

*“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.” —1 John 1:8-10*

We are all sinners. We all make mistakes. We all have the same debt to pay for sin, and that debt is death.

You may have noticed when we were reading about Adam and Eve that they clothed themselves in fig leaves. However, by the end of the reading the Bible says that they were clothed by God in coats of skins. We realize through this scripture that God had a plan the entire time. The plan was for something else to be a sacrifice for the sin of humanity. From the beginning, something had to die for our sins. There has to be bloodshed for the sins of man.

*“And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.” —Hebrews 9:22*

Death is required to wash away our sins. In the Old Testament, people would

bring animals to the priest to sacrifice for their sins. If there is not death for our sins, then we are left with the debt to pay. Without the opportunity of repentance and remission of sins, we would all die a death with a debt of sin to pay.

This is where Jesus comes into the picture.

*“The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.” —John 1:29*

John the Baptist introduced Jesus as the “Lamb of God, which taketh away the sins of the world.” This was a prophetic word spoken by John.

Jesus came to this earth to teach us how to live. He came to be an example to us all. Most importantly, Jesus came that we might have life through His death. He came to reconcile all of us back to Him through His death.

You can read about the death of Jesus Christ in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Jesus died a terrible death on a cross. The people of that day mocked Him, spit on Him, beat Him until He was unrecognizable, put a crown of thorns on His head, and then nailed Him to a cross.

Jesus endured all that pain, hurt, and agony for you and me. He paid the debt of sin for you and me on that day. This is why we must repent. When we repent we apply His death to our lives.

Peter told the people in Jerusalem about repentance in Acts 2:38:

*“Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.” —Acts 2:38*

Repentance is our way of dying out to our old sinful ways and turning our lives over to God. Repentance is turning away from evil ways, denying our flesh, and walking towards God.

Repentance is saying, Jesus, I am sorry for everything I have done wrong. It is feeling sorrow for our sins and asking God for His forgiveness.

*“For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.” —2 Corinthians 7:10*

Repentance is not thinking, “Well, I will sin and then just ask God to forgive me later.” Repentance is not asking God to forgive you when you know the next day you are going to do the same thing again.

Repentance is confessing our sins to God in prayer, and making up our minds that we are going to do everything possible in our lives to turn away from sin.

**JESUS ENDURED ALL THAT PAIN, HURT, AND AGONY FOR YOU AND ME. HE PAID THE DEBT OF SIN FOR YOU AND ME ON THAT DAY. THIS IS WHY WE MUST REPENT. WHEN WE REPENT WE APPLY HIS DEATH TO OUR LIVES.**

Sure, we are going to make mistakes. Yes, we are going to let God down. But we must try our best to live right, talk right, and please God every single day.

Repentance is a daily dying out to self and becoming obedient to the will of God. Paul said it like this:

*“I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily.”  
— 1 Corinthians 15:31*

We must die daily through repentance and pick up our cross. Jesus tells us about this daily death:

*“And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it. For what is a man advantaged, if he gain the whole world, and lose himself, or be cast away? For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and in his Father’s, and of the holy angels. But I tell you of a truth, there be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the kingdom of God.” —Luke 9:23-27*

### **So, how do we repent according to the Bible?**

The simple answer is that every day we are to confess our sins to Jesus in a place of prayer and ask Him to forgive us.

*“Behold, the LORD’s hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.”  
—Isaiah 59:1-2*

When we come to God with a Godly sorrow, He removes that separation between us and forgives us every time. His hand can reach us no matter how far we think we are from God. He can save anyone from any mistake.

The following verse gives us four steps of repentance we can all go through to get the attention of God to hear our prayers, heal our land, and to forgive us of our sin:

*“If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.” —2 Chronicles 7:14*

**WHEN WE COME TO GOD  
WITH A GODLY SORROW,  
HE REMOVES THAT  
SEPARATION BETWEEN  
US AND FORGIVES US  
EVERY TIME.**

## **Step #1: Go to God in Repentance and Humble Yourself**

When we mess up and make mistakes, the enemy of our soul likes to trip us up and tell us we do not need to humble ourselves. The enemy says we need to be prideful and act like everything is ok.

The Bible says that we need to humble ourselves before the Lord. We humble our lives before the Lord by simply acknowledging that we need God to forgive us. We cannot make it without Him in our lives

## **Step #2: Communicate With God About Your Sin**

Prayer is nothing more than communication with God. Prayer is talking with God like you are talking with your best friend. When you pray and talk to God about your sin, ask Him to forgive you and confess out loud your mistakes and sin in a place of prayer. Ask God to help you overcome your struggles and shortcomings. God will sometimes lead you to share your mistakes with a friend who can help you overcome weaknesses we all have in our lives.

*“Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.” —James 5:16*

*“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” —1 John 1:9*

Through your communication with God, He will forgive your sin and apply His death to your life so you are no longer responsible for the debt required by sin.

## **Step #3: Seek God's Face**

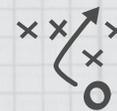
Some may feel like this step is strange and complicated. The fact of the matter is that this step is very important when finding and accepting the forgiveness God has for us through repentance.

When we read about Adam and Eve at the beginning of this lesson, we noticed they hid themselves from the face of God. They were afraid of the way God would look at them. They did not want to see His face of rejection or disappointment.

We know through reading the Word that God came looking for them. His face was not a face of rejection or anger. His face revealed concern, love and forgiveness.

When we seek God's face today through repentance, we will see the same face which has been revealed to us time and time again throughout His Word. Peter denied Jesus three times, but Jesus still came to Peter and asked him, “Do you love me?”

We must all seek God's face in times of sin and mistakes so we can be reminded



**“THERE IS A BIG DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WANTING TO AND WILLING TO.”**

**—PAUL “BEAR” BRYANT**

*This famous former-coach of the University of Alabama was talking about perseverance on the football field. The same can be applied, however, to overcoming sin in our lives. It isn't enough to want to change—you must be willing to go to God and repent.*

of the love Jesus has for us. When we see His face we understand the love He has for us. We understand how much our sin pains His heart because of the separation that is caused.

### **Step #4: Turn Away from Wicked Ways**

The final step in repentance is to turn away from our wicked ways. Do not go back to the old ways that led us all down a path of destruction. Begin to walk the path of righteousness. Begin to daily walk the path that God gives. Allow the Bible to lead you and guide in all ways and avenues of life



*It's tempting to want assurances in life that if we make a certain decision, everything will turn out alright. We rarely get them, but the Bible does offer assurances to believers! Psalms tells us that His Word will be a "lamp" for your feet, and a "light" for your path. As long as we're following His Word, we can be sure where we're headed!*

*"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." —Ps 119:105*

Walk the path that God has for you, and you will begin to see greater things in your life. The blessings and favor of God will begin to manifest like never before. God is calling us all out of darkness and into His marvelous light. Repent, ask God to forgive you, and begin your journey with Jesus. Your life will never be the same.

## **Application**

- What is keeping you from finding a place to pray and asking God to forgive you right now?
- What does it mean to daily carry your cross?
- What is the debt that must be paid for our sins?
- Who paid the debt for our sins?
- Can Jesus forgive any sin at any time?



## Lesson 3: The Necessity of Baptism

*“Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.” —John 3:5-7*

In our last lesson we learned about repentance and how when we repent we die with Christ. Let's read the following verse again from our last lesson:

*“Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:” —1 Corinthians 15:1-4*

These scriptures tell us exactly what the Gospel is:

- Jesus died for us
- Jesus was buried
- Jesus rose again on the third day

This is known as the death, burial, and the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Repentance, as we learned in lesson two, is applying the death of Jesus Christ to our lives. Just like Jesus died, we must die to our old sinful ways through repentance.

In this lesson we are going to cover the second part of the Gospel. This part is the burial of Jesus Christ. The question we must answer is how do we apply the burial of Jesus Christ to our lives? The answer can be found in the scriptures of the Word of God.

*“Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.” —Colossians 2:12*

*“Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:”  
—Romans 6:3-5*

**THE GOSPEL  
(OR “GOOD NEWS”)  
IS THE DEATH, BURIAL,  
AND RESURRECTION  
OF JESUS CHRIST.**

When we are baptized, we are buried with Jesus into His death. Baptism is a symbol of our faith in Jesus Christ. When we are baptized, we are stating and showing that our old man that is dead is being buried with Christ. We are being born again in the water. We come out of the water a new person.

*“For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ’s, then are ye Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.” — Galatians 3:26-29*

There is a supernatural transaction that takes place when someone is baptized in the waters of baptism. The old sinful man or woman is buried, sins are remitted, and the individual getting baptized puts on the character of Christ. He or she is being born of the water.

Peter told some people on the day of Pentecost what they should do to find forgiveness of their sin after they realized they had crucified their Messiah.

*“Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.” —Acts 2:37-39*

Peter said you must:

- Repent = death
- Be baptized = burial
- Receive the Holy Ghost = resurrection

Baptism is an essential part of God's plan for salvation.

Jesus told His disciples before He ascended up into heaven to do the following:

*“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:” —Matthew 28:19*

Jesus in His own words told His disciples to teach and then baptize everyone in the Name! We can then go to the Bible to read where His disciples obeyed the commandment of Jesus Christ.

*“Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.” —Acts 2:38*

## How do we obey the gospel of Jesus Christ in our lives?

1

Just as Jesus died, we must die to our sins through repentance.

2

Just as Jesus was buried, we must be “buried” through baptism.

3

Just as Jesus rose again, we rise in “newness of life” when we receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.



**Does it really matter how you're baptized?** We find in Acts 19 that believers who had already been baptized the way John the Baptist baptized people (unto repentance) were rebaptized in the name of Jesus Christ. So it was important to the early church that believers were baptized the correct way.

*“Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we? And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.” —Acts 10:47-48*

*“And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples, He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.” —Acts 19:1-5*

Something interesting to note from Acts 19 is that Paul went and found believers of God who were already baptized by John the Baptist. He told the believers that there was One that came after John and His name is Jesus. He told them they needed to get baptized again in Jesus' name. They were obedient to the teaching of Paul and were baptized in the name of Jesus.

Please read what the Bible says about baptism:

*“One Lord, one faith, one baptism” —Ephesians 4:5*

There is only one form of baptism ever practiced in the Bible. Every time someone was baptized in the Bible, he or she was baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Every time you read the word baptism in the Bible, it comes from the Greek word *baptizo*.

The word *baptizo* means to be immersed or totally put under the water. When we bury someone we put them all the way under the ground. The same is with baptism. We totally immerse because that is the ONE way the Bible teaches us to baptize.

Here are some scholarly proofs that show the way churches baptized in the past was changed:

#### **The Encyclopedia of Religion and Ethics:**

*As to Matthew 28:19, it says: “It is the central piece of evidence for the traditional (Trinitarian) view. If it were undisputed, this would, of course, be decisive, but its trustworthiness is impugned on grounds of textual criticism, literary criticism and historical criticism.” The same Encyclopedia further states that: “The obvious explanation of the silence of the New Testament on the triune name, and the use of another (JESUS NAME) formula in Acts*

and Paul, is that this other formula was the earlier, and the triune formula is a later addition.”

**Edmund Schlink, The Doctrine of Baptism, page 28:**

*“The baptismal command in its Matthew 28:19 form can not be the historical origin of Christian baptism. At the very least, it must be assumed that the text has been transmitted in a form expanded by the [Catholic] church.”*

**The Tyndale New Testament Commentaries, I, 275:**

*“It is often affirmed that the words in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost are not the ipsissima verba [exact words] of Jesus, but...a later liturgical addition.”*

**Wilhelm Bousset, Kyrios Christianity, page 295:**

*“The testimony for the wide distribution of the simple baptismal formula [in the Name of Jesus] down into the second century is so overwhelming that even in Matthew 28:19, the Trinitarian formula was later inserted.”*

**The Catholic Encyclopedia, II, page 263:**

*“The baptismal formula was changed from the name of Jesus Christ to the words Father, Son, and Holy Spirit by the Catholic Church in the second century.”*

**Why Was it Changed?**

The anti-Christ spirit of this world wants to remove the Name of Jesus from everything because all power in heaven and in earth is given in that Name. The Bible says:

*“Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.” —Acts 4:12*

*“Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: (10) That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” —Philippians 2:9-11*

*“And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.” —Colossians 3:17*

**“THE BAPTISMAL  
FORMULA WAS  
CHANGED FROM THE  
NAME OF JESUS CHRIST  
TO THE WORDS FATHER,  
SON, AND HOLY SPIRIT  
BY THE CATHOLIC  
CHURCH IN THE SECOND  
CENTURY.”**

**—THE CATHOLIC ENCYCLOPEDIA**



**“THERE IS A WAY THAT  
SEEMS RIGHT TO A MAN,  
BUT ITS END IS THE WAY  
TO DEATH.”**

—PROVERBS 14:12 (ESV)

Opinions matter very little. Everyone has an opinion on any given subject.

But once you decide to follow Jesus, you're making the decision to trade out your opinion for the Truth found in the Word of God; a decision to believe there is a right way to live.

## **Other Scriptural references to baptism:**

*“He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.” —Mark 16:16*

*“Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water. The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:” —1 Peter 3:20-21*

Circumcision is likened to being baptized:

*“In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ: Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.” —Colossians 2:11-12*

In the Old Testament, the people of God were brought into covenant with God when the men were circumcised:

*“This is my covenant, which ye shall keep, between me and you and thy seed after thee; Every man child among you shall be circumcised. And ye shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin; and it shall be a token of the covenant betwixt me and you. And he that is eight days old shall be circumcised among you, every man child in your generations, he that is born in the house, or bought with money of any stranger, which is not of thy seed. He that is born in thy house, and he that is bought with thy money, must needs be circumcised : and my covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant. And the uncircumcised man child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised , that soul shall be cut off from his people; he hath broken my covenant.” —Genesis 17:10-14*

Then in the New Testament Paul told the church in Colossae that baptism was the new spiritual circumcision:

*“In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ: Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead. And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing*

*it to his cross; And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.” —Colossians 2:11-15*

According to this set of scriptures, there are handwritten ordinances that have been written against us when we sin. But through the obedience to the word of God in baptism, we go through a spiritual circumcision.

*“For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ’s, then are ye Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.” —Galatians 3:26-29*

No longer is the physical circumcision required to show a covenant with God. But through baptism, there is a spiritual circumcision. Being born of the water is when we are baptized

*“Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.” —John 3:5-7*

In these scriptures there is a religious leader named Nicodemus that comes to Jesus at night and says, What must I do to get to heaven? Jesus simply and plainly told him: you must be born again of the water (baptism in Jesus’ name) and of the spirit.

What is keeping you from getting baptized in Jesus’ name today? What is keeping you from having all your sins washed away forever? What is keeping you from obeying the scriptures Jesus gave to us?

Will you obey the gospel today?

## ***Application***

- How were the early believers baptized in the Bible?
- Was the formula of baptism changed from Jesus to Father, Son and Holy Spirit?
- How are we born of the water?
- Did the disciples obey the commandment of Jesus Christ when they baptized people in the Name of Jesus?
- Are you ready to be baptized in Jesus’ Name?



*One scripture, taken out of context, may seem to say something that doesn’t make sense. When a subject is in question, it’s important to find multiple scriptures that agree—the Word will always agree with itself. For that reason, we can trust that baptism in Jesus’ name was the the New Testament church baptized because we see it repeated throughout the Scriptures.*



## Lesson 4: The Baptism of the Holy Ghost

*“Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.” —John 3:5-7*

In our last lesson, we were able to learn more about the baptism of water and being born of the water. In this lesson we’ll cover being born of the Spirit.

Let’s read the following verse again from our last lesson:

*“Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:” —1 Corinthians 15:1-4*

These scriptures tell us exactly what the Gospel is.

- Jesus died for us = Repentance
- Jesus was buried = Baptism in Jesus’ Name
- Jesus rose again on the third day = Resurrection

The death, burial, and resurrection is the Gospel.

Jesus told Nicodemus that he must be born of the water and the spirit to inherit the Kingdom of God. How are we born of the spirit? In order to answer this question, we must first look into the New Testament after Jesus was resurrected. Jesus told His believers to go to Jerusalem to wait for the promise of the Father:

*“And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.” —Acts 1:4-8*

### How do we obey the gospel of Jesus Christ in our lives?

1

*Just as Jesus died, we must die to our sins through repentance.*

2

*Just as Jesus was buried, we must be “buried” through baptism.*

3

*Just as Jesus rose again, we rise in “newness of life” when we receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.*



**Teacher:** This is a prime opportunity for you to tell about your experience receiving the Holy Ghost! Prior to teaching, take some time to reflect on that moment—try and remember the message that was preached (if it was during a service), the music...share as many details as you can remember!

Many of the believers followed the instruction of Jesus and went back to Jerusalem to wait for the promise of the Holy Ghost. You can read about what happened next in the book of Acts:

*“And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.” —Acts 2:1-4*

They were all filled and began to speak with other tongues. Peter spoke of this promise later on that day to all the people who could hear him.

*“Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.” —Acts 2:38-39*

The gift of the Holy Ghost is a promise for everyone who will hear the Word of God. Being born of the spirit is very important because Jesus said you must be born of the spirit to inherit the kingdom of heaven.

### ***How Do You Know You're Born of the Spirit?***

Because of the importance of Holy Ghost baptism, we all need to know whether or not we are born of the Spirit. Many people have said, “I know I have the Holy Ghost because I went to church and cried.” While it is a great experience to cry in the power and presence of God, there are many reasons why we cry. Crying is not the evidence of being born of the Spirit.

Some have said, “I know I have the Spirit because I am a happy person and I do good things.” However, there are people in this world that are happy and do good things for humanity while professing that God doesn't even exist. Being happy and doing good things does not give us the evidence that we have been born of the Spirit.

There is only *one* way for us to know that we have been baptized with the Holy Ghost. It is the same way the people in the early church knew they were filled with the Holy Ghost:

*“And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were*

*all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.” —Acts 2:1-4*

*“While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter, Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?” —Acts 10:44-47*

*“And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples, He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John’s baptism. Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.” —Acts 19:1-6*

Every time someone received the Holy Ghost after the resurrection of Jesus Christ, he or she spoke with other tongues—another language that he or she never knew before. The spirit of God spoke through that person.

### **Why Speaking in Tongues?**

When you receive the baptism of the Holy Ghost, you will speak in other tongues as the spirit of God gives the utterance. Why did God use speaking in tongues as the evidence of being filled with His Spirit?

*“Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell. For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind: But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.” —James 3:5-8*

The Bible says that no man can tame the tongue. Only God can. When we come to God and wholly give our lives to Him, He will take our tongue and use it to give Him praise.

**EVERY TIME SOMEONE RECEIVED THE HOLY GHOST AFTER THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST, HE OR SHE SPOKE WITH OTHER TONGUES—ANOTHER LANGUAGE THAT HE OR SHE NEVER KNEW BEFORE.**



**Teacher:** This is a prime opportunity for you to tell about your experience receiving the Holy Ghost!

Prior to teaching, take some time to reflect on that moment—try and remember the message that was preached (if it was during a service), the music...share as many details as you can remember!

This is a supernatural heavenly experience that has been going on for over 2,000 years now. Thousands of people all over the world are being baptized with the Holy Ghost evidenced by speaking in tongues each year. Just like the people received the Holy Ghost in the first church, we are still receiving the Holy Ghost the same way today.

When someone wants this gift, there are two things he must do:

- Repent of his sins
- Open his mouth and thank God for the Gift that He is going to give him

As that individual begins to thank God and praise the Lord with words like “Hallelujah,” and “I love you, Jesus,” that individual will begin to speak words of another language that he or she has never learned before.

Something to remember when receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost is that when God begins to take over our tongues or language, we can only speak one language at a time. We must be willing to surrender our known language to speak the unknown language of men or angels.

### ***What Does the Bible Say About the Holy Ghost?***

*“And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.” —Romans 8:10-11*

The same Spirit that raised up Jesus Christ is the same Spirit that is going to raise us up. If we do not have this Spirit then we will not partake of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. If we do not have the Holy Ghost, we have not obeyed the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Always remember that the Holy Ghost is a gift from God. He is the only One that can give it!

There are many benefits to having the Holy Ghost:

- It is a part of God’s plan for salvation
- It is a Comforter when we need comfort
- It teaches us all things
- It brings to our memory what we have learned in God and what has been spoken to us.

*“But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.” —John 14:26*

The Holy Ghost also helps us be used in the Gifts of the Spirit. You can read about the Gifts of the Spirit in 1 Corinthians 12. I am not going to read through them all but I will show you through the first couple of verses that the gifts come from being filled with the Holy Ghost:

*“Now there are diversities of gifts , but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.” —1 Corinthians 12:4-6*

I could name many other blessings or attributes that come with being full of the Holy Ghost, but they can all be summed up like this: **It is God living in you!** God’s plan for you is to obey the Gospel and to be full of His Spirit! You can be born again of the water and the spirit!

## Summary

In lesson 1, we learned about God’s Word and faith. In lesson 2, we learned about repentance and how it applies the death of Jesus Christ to our lives. In lesson 3, we learned about baptism and how it applies the burial of Jesus Christ to our lives. In our final lesson today, we learned about the resurrection and Spirit of God that we can all be filled with.

The Bible says:

*“Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.” —1 John 4:4*

When God fills you with His Spirit, there will be greatness within you. This greatness is greater than anything in this world. This greatness is a gift given to you to overcome the things of this world. This greatness will one day give you victory over death, hell, and the grave.

When you are born again of the water and the Spirit, there will be nothing holding you back from becoming the man or woman of God that He has created you to become.

Let your journey to greatness start today and experience everything God has for you in Jesus’ Name!

## Application

- How did the early believers know people were filled with the Holy Ghost?
- In Acts 2, who did Peter say this promise is for?
- Is God still pouring out His Spirit upon all flesh today, Acts 2:17?





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